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Utility Patent Ser. No 10/033,862

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend the following claims by deleting the language which is strikenthrough and inserting the language which is <u>underlined</u>.

- 1. (Currently Amended) A nonabsorbent particle entrapment pad comprising:
 - a bonded high loft, non-absorbent nonwoven top layer, said high loft nonwoven being defined as an open pore matrix or web of fibers attached to a barrier bottom layer; and;

wherein said bonded high loft nonwoven top layer is adapted such that the internal pores, and interstices, when receives collected externally applied fine to coarse solid particles the web of fibers thereby entraps, and retains collected particles, said base barrier bottom layer maintains said collected particles within said entrapment pad.

- 2. (Currently Amended) The pad of claim 1, further comprising an externally applied, cling enhancing substance placed or applied within at least a portion of said fibers within said matrix or web, wherein cling enhancing substance enhances the ability of the matrix fibers to mechanically cling on to the solid particulates.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The pad of claim 2 wherein said cling enhancing substance places or applied on the fibers is purposely preloaded with dry solid particles that are soluble in water, or react with water when wetted.

- 4. (Previously Presented) The pad of claim 3, wherein said dry reactive particles are selected from the group comprising: baking soda; dry or powdered particulates; anti-microbial agent; superabsorbent polymer; disinfectant; silica get; antifungal; fragrance; and odor-counteractive agent.
- 5. (Cancelled).
- 6. (Cancelled).
- 7. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 1, further comprising a liquid-absorbing middle layer.
- 8. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said middle layer is wood pulp.
- 9. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said middle layer is a super absorbent polymer.
- 10. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said middle layer is treated with baking soda.
- 11. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 10, further comprising a super absorbent polymer.

- 12. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said middle layer is treated with an anti-microbial agent.
- 13. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said middle layer is treated with an odor-counteractive agent.
- 14. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 8, wherein said wood pulp is treated with a super absorbent polymer.
- 15. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said top layer is treated with a cling enhancing substance.
- 16. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said top layer is treated with baking soda.
- 17. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said top layer is treated with an anti-microbial agent.
- 18. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said top layer is treated with an odor-counteractive agent.

- (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad includes a decorative design.
- 20. (Currently Amended) The pad of claim 1, wherein said wherein said collected particles are selected from the group comprising: cat litter; workshop debris, dust; and pet food.
- 21. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used as a dish-draining mat.
- (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used as a doormat.
- 23. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 25, wherein said doormat is a runner.
- 24. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used as a car floor mat.
- 25. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used as a bathroom mat.
- 26. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used under countertop soap dishes and dispensers.
- 27. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used to line garbage receptacles.

28. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used to catch excess water and soil under potted plants. 29. (Canceled). 30. (Canceled). 31. (Canceled). 32. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used in the vicinity of a pet food or pet water dish. 33. (Previously Presented) The pad of claim 4, wherein said baking soda absorbs odors in a refrigerator. 34. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 9, further comprising baking soda, wherein said pad is used to absorb odors and excess moisture. 35. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7 wherein said middle layer is mostly silica gel. 36. (Cancelled).

37. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 36, further comprising a liquid-absorbing middle layer.

- 38. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 36, wherein said middle layer is wood pulp.
- 39. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 36, wherein said middle layer is a super absorbent polymer.
- 40. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 38, wherein said wood pulp is treated with a super absorbent polymer.
- 41. (Cancelled).
- 42. (Cancelled)
- 43. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 36, wherein said middle layer is treated with baking soda.
- 44. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 43, wherein said middle layer is treated with a super absorbent polymer.
- 45. (Cancelled).
- 46. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 36, wherein said middle layer is treated with an anti-microbial agent.

- 47. (Cancelled).
- 48. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 36, wherein said middle layer is treated with an odor-counteractive agent.
- 49. (Previously Withdrawn) An anti-odor pouch comprising:
 - a non-woven front layer;
 - a non-woven back layer attached to said non-woven front layer; and
 - a middle layer of baking soda layered between said front and back layer.
- 50. (Previously Withdrawn) The anti-odor pouch of claim 49 wherein said middle layer includes a non-woven treated with baking soda.
- 51. (Previously Withdrawn) The anti-odor pouch of claim 49, wherein said pouch is used to deodorize a refrigerator.
- 52. (Previously Withdrawn) The anti-odor pouch of claim 49, wherein said middle layer further comprises silica gel.
- 53. (Previously Withdrawn) The anti-odor pouch of claim 52, further comprising a super absorbent polymer.

- 54. (Previously Withdrawn) The anti-odor pouch of claim 52, wherein said pouch is used to deodorize and dehumidify a refrigerator.
- 55. (Previously Withdrawn) A method of entrapping particles comprising:

layering a high loft non-woven top layer, having an upper end and a lower end, on top of an impervious bottom layer to create a two-layer pad;

attaching said lower end of said top layer to said bottom layer; and placing said pad, top layer up, upon a surface where particles will fall; wherein, when said particles fall upon said non-woven top layer said particles become trapped within a matrix of said non-woven top layer; wherein, fine particles fall to said lower end of said top layer; wherein, coarse particles are suspended within said matrix; and wherein, said pad can be easily disposed of without spilling said particles.

- 56. (Previously Withdrawn) The method of claim 55, wherein said pad is used to entrap litter particles.
- 57. (Previously Withdrawn) The method of claim 55, wherein said pad is used to entrap carbon particles.
- 58. (Previously Withdrawn) The method of claim 55, wherein said pad is used to entrap dust

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particles.

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- 59. (Previously Withdrawn) The method of claim 55, wherein said pad is used to entrap soil.
- 60. (Previously Withdrawn) The method of claim 55, wherein said pad is used to entrap food particles.
- 61. (Previously Withdrawn) A method of entrapping particles while absorbing liquid comprising:

layering a high loft non-woven top layer, having an upper end and a lower end, on top of a liquid-absorbing middle layer that is layered upon an impervious bottom layer to create a three-layer pad;

attaching said lower end of said top layer to said middle layer;

attaching said middle layer to said bottom layer; and

placing said pad, top layer up, upon a surface where particles and liquid will fall;

wherein, when said particles fall upon said non-woven top layer said particles become trapped within a matrix of said non-woven top layer;

wherein, fine particles fall to said lower end of said top layer;

wherein, coarse particles are suspended within said matrix;

wherein, when liquid falls upon said non-woven top layer, said liquid passes through said top layer and is absorbed by said middle layer; and

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wherein, said pad can be easily disposed of without spilling said particles and said liquid.

62. (Previously Withdrawn) The method of claim 61 wherein said middle layer includes baking soda.

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- 63. (Previously Withdrawn) The method of claim 62 wherein said middle layer includes a super absorbent polymer.
- 64. (Previously Withdrawn) The method of claim 61, wherein said pad is used to entrap water.
- 65. (Previously Withdrawn) The method of claim 61, wherein said pad is used to entrap urine.
- 66. (Previously Withdrawn) The method of claim 61, wherein said pad is used to entrap litter particles.
- 67. (Previously Withdrawn) The method of claim 61, wherein said pad is used to entrap food particles.
- 68. (Previously Withdrawn) The method of claim 61, wherein said pad is used to entrap soil.
- 69. (Previously Withdrawn) The pad of claim 1, further comprising a means for attaching said

pad to another surface.

70. (Previously Presented) The pad of claim 2 wherein said cling enhancing substance is a sticky substance.

71. (Previously Presented) A particle entrapment pad comprising:

a high loft, non absorbent nonwoven top layer treated with a cling enhancing substance to receive and trap particles, said high loft nonwoven being defined as a matrix formed of fibers or filaments randomly oriented and fused at intersecting points of said fibers or filaments and secured to an impervious bottom layer to maintain said particles within said entrapment pad, wherein said high loft non-woven top layer receives and entraps particles and said bottom layer is impervious to said particles.

72. (Currently Amended) The pad of claim 71 wherein said top layer is treated with a dry particulate-substance selected from the group comprising; baking soda; superabsorbent polymer; antimicrobial agent; commercially available tacky material;; silica; fragrance; calcium carbonate; fragrance; and odor counteractive agent.

- 73. (Cancelled).
- 74. (Cancelled).

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- 75. (Previously Presented) A particle entrapment pad comprising:
 - a high loft, non-woven top layer, said high loft non-woven being defined as a matrix formed of synthetic fibers or filaments randomly oriented and fused at intersecting points of said fibers or filaments, forming an open porous structural web or matrix, capable to receive and trap particles and secured to a bottom layer to maintain said particles within said entrapment pad;

said top layer being treated with a cling enhancing substance applied or placed within the web; and

said high loft nonwoven top layer is treated with at least one additional dry, solid particulate, agent.

- 76. (Cancelled).
- 77. (Previously Presented) The pad of claim 75 wherein said cling enhancing substance can contact a particle, entrapping or clinging to it mechanically without forming a chemical reaction or forming chemical bonds between said particle and said cling enhancing substance.
- 78. (Currently Amended) The pad of Claim 75, wherein said additional dry particulate agent is selected from the group comprising: baking soda; antimicrobial agent; at least one superabsorbent polymer; fragrance; an odor counteractive agent;

- 79. (Cancelled).
- 80. (Cancelled).
- 81. (Cancelled).
- 82. (Previously Presented) A particle entrapment pad comprising an impervious bottom layer and a high loft non-woven top layer, wherein said high loft non-woven top layer includes a cling enhancing substance within a matrix of said non-woven that is sticky and can cling to dry particulates without entering into a chemical reaction with those particulates and is chemically inert while clinging to the particulates.
- 83. (Previously Presented) The pad of Claim 82, further comprising:
 dry particles preloaded to said cling enhancing substance.
- 84. (Previously Presented) The pad of Claim 83, wherein said reactive particles are chemically reactive when solublized in a liquid.
- 85. (Original))The pad of Claim 83, wherein said reactive particles are selected from the group comprising: substance selected from the group comprising: baking soda; dry or powdered particulates; anti-microbial agent; superabsorbent polymer; disinfectant; silica get; antifungal; fragrance; and odor-counteractive agent.

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- 86. (Cancelled).
- 87. (Cancelled),
- 88. (Cancelled).
- 89. (Cancelled).
- 90. (Cancelled).
- 91. (Previously Presented) An absorbent particle entrapment pad comprising:
 - a high loft, non-absorbent nonwoven top layer, said high loft nonwoven being defined as an open pore matrix or web of fibers attached to an impervious bottom layer; and a cling enhancing substance applied to a least a portion of said fibers; and superaborbent polymer affixed to said cling enhancing substance;

wherein said superabsorbent polymer clinging to said fibers allow said non-absorbent nonwoven top layer to emulate absorbency when wetted.

- 92. (Previously Presented) The pad of claim 2, where the cling enhancing substance is placed or applied within the matrix and the fibers of the bonded, web, highloft matrix so that a Sticky, residue, remains, that can mechanically entrap solid particulates that come in contact with the sticky substance.
- 93. (Previously Presented) The Cling agent of claim 92 whereby the sticky, tacky, residue remaining on the inert fibers of the matrix mechanically adheres to entering particulates within

the web to hold them and does not chemically react with these particulates such as by creating chemical bonds.

- 94. (Previously Presented) The cling agent of Claim 92 where the sticky, mechanical entrapment of the entering particulates holds dry particulates of Superabsorbent polymers, Baking Soda, Fragrances and odor counteractants, disinfectants., fungicides.
- 95. (Currently Amended) The pad of Claim 83, wherein said reactive particles are chemically reactive when exposed to a Gas such as Air.